Please amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 to 14, 16, 18, 19, 22 and 24 to 35 as follows:

1. (Amended) A data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising:

producing means for producing an image output job;

designating means for designating a first selection condition data by a user

[obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image];

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in accordance with a content of said image output job and said selection condition data [in the output form obtained by said obtain means], from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means; and

job assigning means for assigning an image output job to the image output apparatus selected by said selection means.

3. (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [said selection means selects an image output apparatus based on the content of the image output job and] a state of the image output [job assigned to each of the image output apparatuses, in addition to the

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output form obtained by said obtain means] _apparatus is provided as a second selection condition data_.

4. (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said selection means [comprises] _include_ confirm means for confirming function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means, and selects an image output apparatus having function to perform output operation _in accordance with said content of the image output job and said first selection condition data_ [in the output form obtained by said obtain means].

7. (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the _content of the image output job_ [obtained output form] designates to select an image output apparatus which completes execution of the image output job in a short time period, said selection means selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in _accordance with the content of the image output job_ [the designated output form], based on the state of the image output job assigned to each of the image output apparatuses and the content of the image output job.

9.     (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the content of the image output job [obtained output form] designates to select an image output apparatus capable of color image output, said selection means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means and selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in accordance with the content of the image output job [the designated output form].

10.     (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the content of the image output job [obtained output form] designates to select a printer capable of both-sides printing, said selection means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means and selects a printer serving as an image output apparatus which can perform printing in accordance with the content of the image output job [the designated output form].

11.     (Amended) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where a size of an output image is designated by the content of the image output job [output form], said selection means confirms the function

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of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses

connected by said connection means and selects an image

output apparatus which can perform output operation in

accordance with the image output job [the designated output

form].

12. (Amended) The data processing apparatus

according to claim 1, wherein in a case where there are

plural image output apparatuses which can perform output

operation in accordance with the content of the image output

job [the output form obtained by said obtain means], said

selection means selects one of the plural image output

apparatuses based on priorities set in advance.

13. (Amended) The data processing apparatus

according to claim 1, wherein in a case where there are

plural image output apparatuses which can perform output

operation in accordance with the content of the image output

job [the output form obtained by said obtain means], said

selection means allows an operator to select one of the

plural image output apparatuses.

14. (Amended) The data processing apparatus

according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the content of

the image output job [output form obtained by said obtain

means] includes plural output forms, said selection means
selects an image output apparatus which can perform output
operation in all the output forms.

16. (Amended) A data processing method for
executing an image output job by selecting one of a plurality
of image output apparatuses, comprising the steps of:

producing an image output job

[obtaining an output form of an image];

receiving for designating data as a first selection
condition data by a user;

selecting an image output apparatus, which can
perform output operation in accordance with said image output
job and first selection condition data [in the output form
obtained in said obtaining step], from the plurality of
selectable image output apparatuses; and

assigning the image output job to the image output
apparatus selected in said selecting step.

18. (Amended) The data processing method according
to claim 16, wherein in said selecting step, an image output
apparatus is selected further based on [the content of the
image output job and] a state of the image output job
assigned to each of the image output apparatuses, in addition
to said content of the image output job and said first

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selection condition data [the output form obtained in said
obtaining step].

19. (Amended) The data processing method according
to claim 16, wherein said selecting step comprises a step of
confirming function of each of the plurality of selectable
image output apparatuses and an image output apparatus
having function to perform output operation in accordance
with said content of the image output job and said first
selection condition data [in the output form obtained in said
obtaining step is selected].

22. (Amended) The data processing method according
to claim 16, wherein in a case where the content of the image
output job [obtained output form] designates to select an
image output apparatus which completes execution of the image
output job in a short time period, in said selecting step, an
image output apparatus which can perform output operation in
accordance with the content of the image output job and the
first selection condition data [the designated output form]
is selected based on the state of the image output job
assigned to each of the image output apparatuses and the
content of the image output job.

24.    (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the content of the image output job [obtained output form] designates to select an image output apparatus capable of color image output, in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed, and an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in accordance with the content of the image output job and the first selection condition data [the designated output form] is selected.

25.    (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the content of the image output job [obtained output form] designates to select a printer capable of both sides printing, in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed and a printer serving as an image output apparatus which can perform printing in accordance with the content of the image output job and the first selection condition data [the designated output form] is selected.

26.    (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where a size of an output image is designated by the content of the image output job

[output form], in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed and an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in accordance with the content of the image output job and the first selection condition data [the designated output form] is selected.

27. (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where there are plural image output apparatuses which can perform output operation in accordance with the content of the image output job [the output form obtained in said obtaining step], one of the plural image output apparatuses is selected in said selecting step based on priorities set in advance.

28. (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where there are plural image output apparatuses which can perform output operation in accordance with said content of the image output job and said first selection condition data [in the output form obtained in said obtaining step], one of the plural image output apparatuses is selected in said selecting step based on an instruction inputted by an operator.

29.  (Amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where said content of the image output job and said first selection condition data [the output form obtained in said obtaining step] includes plural output forms, an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in all [the output forms] condition is selected in said selecting step.

30.  (Amended) A data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising:

producing means for producing an image output job;

designating means for designating a first selection condition data by a user

[obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image]; and

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus[,] which can perform output operation in accordance with a content of said image output job and said first selection condition data [the output form obtained by said obtain means], from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

31. (Amended) A data processing method for executing an image output job by selecting one of a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising the steps of:

producing an image output job;

designating a first selection condition data by a user

[obtaining an output form of an image]; and

selecting an image output apparatus[,] which can perform output operation in accordance with a content of said image output job and said first selection condition data [the output form obtained in said obtaining step], from the plurality of selectable image output apparatuses.


32. (Amended) A memory medium storing program codes for controlling a data processing apparatus which includes connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

producing means for producing an image output job;

designating means for designating a first selection condition data by a user

[obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image];

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus[,] which can perform output operation in accordance

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with a content of said image output job and said first

selection condition data [the output form obtained by said

obtain means], from the plurality of image output apparatuses

connected by said connection means; and

     job [assigning] assignment means for assigning an

image output job to the image output apparatus selected by

said selection means.


     33.   (Amended) A program for controlling a data

processing apparatus having connection means for being

connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for

causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an

apparatus, comprising;

     producing an image output job;

     designating a first selection condition data by a

user

     [obtain means for obtaining an output form of an

image];

     selection means for selecting an image output

apparatus[,] which can perform output operation in accordance

with a content of said image output job and said first

selection condition data [the output form obtained by said

obtain means], from the plurality of image output apparatuses

connected by said connection means; and


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job [assigning] <u>assignment</u> means for assigning an image output job to the image output apparatus selected by said selection means.

34.    (Amended) A memory medium storing program codes for controlling a data processing apparatus which includes connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

<u>producing means for producing an image output job;</u>

<u>designating means for designating a first selection condition data by a user</u>

[obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image]; and

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus[,] which can perform output operation in <u>accordance with a content of said image output job and said first selection condition data</u> [the output form obtained by said obtain means], from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

35.    (Amended) A program for controlling a data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for

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